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The future of military intelligence training

AutoBears Assemble – Report from the 70th Brigade Engineer Battalion

2nd Lt. Casey Walker
Delta “Dominion” Company,
70th Brigade Engineer
Battalion

AutoBears from the 70th Brigade Engineer Battalion held a Wolf Council in order to discuss an upcoming change in the training requirements for military intelligence Soldiers. Delta “Dominion” Company was the first BEB company to host the event since the start of the deployment.

The topic of the presentation was the new Military Intelligence Training Strategy program and the unique challenges it poses to Fort Wainwright Soldiers.

MITS is a standardized series of tasks and operations, which must be completed by all MI Soldiers on an annual basis. These are conducted at various levels of collaboration; evaluations start on an individual basis and culminate into a company-wide event.

This year will be the first time that MITS is implemented across United States Army Forces Command units.

An important component of MITS is the evaluation process. Specifically, MITS requires that all evaluations must be carried out by external evaluators who aren’t or-

ganic to the MI company’s respective brigade. Unlike other FORSCOM posts, there is only one MICO on Fort Wainwright, and that means evaluators will need to be brought in from other installations, or MI Soldiers will need to be flown out to testing sites.

During the Wolf Council, leadership from Dominion Company discussed potential solutions to this with the Task Force Reserve commander and key planners within the brigade.



While there is still much planning to be done, this conversation built a foundation of understanding

that will ensure MI Soldiers on Fort Wainwright receive the support they need to complete MITS.

Fort Greely Soldiers and police help students at Delta Elementary School

Chris Maestas
U.S. Army Garrison
Alaska, Fort Greely Public
Affairs

Volunteers from U.S. Army Garrison Alaska, Fort Greely partnered with the teachers and students of Delta Elementary School on Feb. 19 to assist with classroom activities.

Three Soldiers and two police officers provided one-on-one reading opportunities and assisted with quizzes and sight word games.

“Volunteers from Fort Greely bring the community closer together,” said Delta Elementary School principal Bill Johnson. “The kids love seeing uniforms in the school, and the volunteers enhance the educational experience and help build partnerships.”



49th Missile Defense Battalion commander, Lt. Col. Paul Tappen, provides a one-on-one reading opportunity for a student at Delta Elementary School on Feb. 19. The Fort Greely Adopt-A-School program contributes military resources and services in order to increase public awareness of the Army’s mission and to foster good relations between the military and the communities they reside in. (Photo by Chris Maestas, U.S. Army Garrison Alaska, Fort Greely Public Affairs)

Volunteer school engagements are just one of the multiple events that are planned under Fort Greely’s Adopt-A-School program. The Fort Greely AAS program contributes

military resources and services in order to increase public awareness of the Army’s mission and to foster good relations between the military and the communities they reside in.



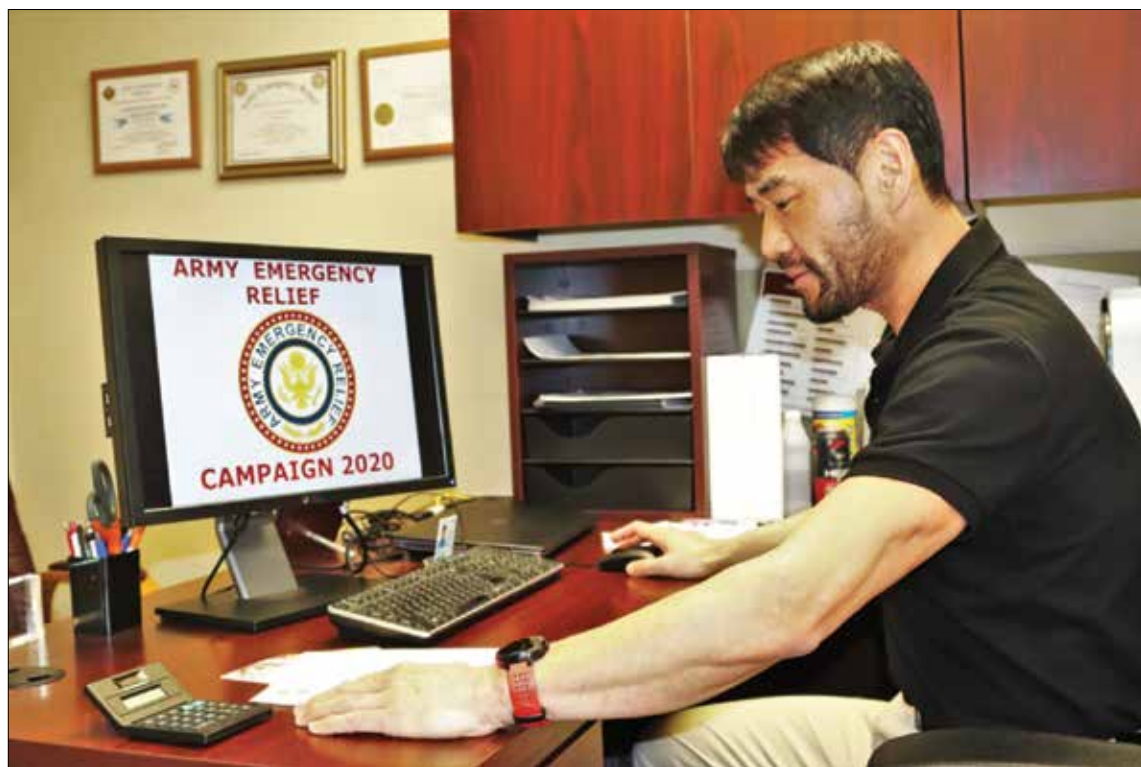
Chief Warrant Officer 2 Suzannie Wilkins, 49th Missile Defense Battalion maintenance officer, helps a Delta Elementary School student with computer coding Feb. 19. The Fort Greely Adopt-A-School program contributes military resources and services in order to increase public awareness of the Army’s mission and to foster good relations between the military and the communities they reside in. (Photo by Chris Maestas, U.S. Army Garrison Alaska, Fort Greely Public Affairs)

Army Emergency Relief Campaign

With the Army Emergency Relief annual campaign beginning March 1, now is a good time to review the AER program and the benefits it provides to our Soldiers and Families.

Army Emergency Relief’s history of helping Soldiers began in 1942. Since that time, AER has provided more than \$2 billion in assistance, helping to meet the emergency financial needs of Soldiers, retirees and their eligible family Members.

Today’s Army continues to carry on this 78-year legacy of Soldiers caring for Soldiers. During the annual Army Emergency Relief Campaign, which runs from March 1 to May 15, Soldiers are asked to contribute to this program through personal donations. Dollars donated to AER go directly to help other Soldiers in need, just as they have since 1942. This why the motto at AER is “Soldiers helping Soldiers.”



(Courtesy photo)

As a non-profit 501(C) 3 organization, one of the AER program benefits is that all assistance is provided in the form of non-inter-

est loans, grants or combinations of the two. Recent survey results show that three out of four Soldiers admit to using a predatory

lender at some point in their military career, such as online lenders, pawn shops and payday loan establishments. These lenders target

Soldiers, offering easy access to cash, while charging excessive interest rates that only cause further financial harm. AER wants to provide Soldiers a better option that is truly looking to assist them, not take advantage of them.

The goal for the AER campaign is to ensure that we reach every Soldier on Fort Wainwright and ensure they are aware of the programs that Army Emergency Relief provides them. AER wants to be the first place they turn, and the first place they refer their battle buddies to, when faced with a financial emergency.

In 2019 Army Emergency Relief provided \$70 Million in assistance to over 40,000 Soldiers and Families worldwide. Locally, AER was able to assist 376 Fort Wainwright Soldiers and Families with over \$579,000 in emergency assistance.

See AERO on page 2

WEEKEND WEATHER

Friday



Snow likely and areas of freezing fog. High: 18.

Saturday



Snow likely and areas of freezing fog then chance of snow. High: 7.

Sunday



Slight chance of snow. High: 0.

GROW & GIGGLES

February 24 & 27
9:30 - 11 a.m.

An interactive play group for children 0-5 years old. Assisting parents in learning developmentally appropriate play techniques and helps children improve their social, cognitive, and motor skills.

Last Frontier Community Activity Center, Bldg 1044. Call 353-7755

Nutrition Corner: Nutrition 101

The nutrition facts of food products contain information that allows you, as the consumer, to make informed and healthy choices. Frequently, the food label is overlooked but it contains all the information you need to ensure you are getting the most bang for your buck in the nutrition department. Before you look at anything, always check out the serving size. Everything listed on that label is relative to the portion size. Even items that look like they are single serving items, some varieties of chips for example, may have two to three

servings. Next, scope out the calories. This is of particular importance if you are trying to manage your weight. The daily values can be used as a guide but note that they are based on a 2,000 calorie diet, which may be more or less than you need. None the less, they are a good snapshot at what nutrients the product contains. If a product contains less than 5 percent of the daily value in a particular nutrient, it is considered “low” in that nutrient. Conversely, for something to be considered “high” in a nutrient, it must

have more than 20 percent of the daily value in a nutrient. As a general rule of thumb, aim for low in cholesterol, saturated fat, trans fat and sodium; and aim for high in vitamin, minerals and fiber. Diets high in saturated fat and trans fat can increase your risk for heart disease. High sodium diets can lead to high blood pressure. Don’t confuse “reduced sodium” with “low sodium.” Products that are low in sodium must have less than 140 milligrams of sodium per serving while reduced sodium products

only have 25 percent less than their original product. A good example of how this can be misleading is soy sauce. Next time you are in the grocery store, check it out. You will find that the reduced sodium variety is indeed reduced but is still very high in sodium. **Featured Food** Greek yogurt. Calorie content varies depending on the brand and ingredients. Aim for yogurts that are low in fat with no sugar added. A great option is to purchase plain, fat free Greek yogurt and add your

own fruit or use it as a sour cream alternative. **Featured Recipe** Banana and Berry Smoothie **Ingredients** 1½ frozen banana ¼ cup orange juice 1 cup strawberries 1 cup blueberries 1 cup plain, fat free Greek Yogurt ½ cup skim milk **Instruction** Place all ingredients in a blender and blend until smooth. Enjoy!

History Snapshot: Alcan Highway – the Prairie Route



After much debate, the so called "Prairie Route" through Canada and to Alaska was chosen because it was determined to be far enough inland to avoid enemy attack, and it connected existing air bases along the Northwest Staging Route, which was completed the year before. Costing \$138 million to construct, the road was completed in a mere eight months and 12 days. It was opened Nov. 20, 1942 at a ceremony held at Soldier's Summit near Kluane Lake, Yukon, Canada. (Photo courtesy of the Library of Congress)

AERO

Continued from page 1

The Army Emergency Relief officers at Fort Wainwright are honored to serve America’s Arctic Warriors and Families. We look forward to meeting with every unit and communicating our program benefits to every Soldier during this year’s campaign. Thank you for your service to our nation! If you find yourself in need of financial assistance, please contact Army Emergency Relief located within Army Community Services office in building 3401, or by phone at 907-353-4369.

MEDDAC Minute

Important Phone Numbers

Emergency: 911
24 Hour Nurse Advice Line: 1-800-874-2273 Opt. 1
Appointment Line: 361-4000
Behavioral Health: 361-6059
Benefits Advisor: 361-5656
Immunizations: 361-5456
Information Desk: 361-5172
Patient Advocate: 361-5291
Pharmacy Refills: 361-5803
Tricare On-Line: www.tricare-online.com
Health Net: www.tricare-west.com, 1-844-8676-9378

Over The Counter Medications

Bassett Army Community Hospital Pharmacy offers beneficiaries the ability to receive free over the counter medications. Items such as fever/pain reducers, antibiotic cream, cold and allergy remedies, lice treatment and vitamin D are available. Medicines are subject to availability and families are restricted to a maximum of four items per week. A full list of medications is available at the pharmacy.

Appointments From Home

In partnership with TRICARE, PM Pediatrics is offering virtual appointments for TRICARE beneficiaries from birth through 26 years old. Visit with a pediatrician using your smart phone, table or computer from anywhere. Common illness

that can be treated are sprains and strains, respiratory infections, coughs, skin rashes, sinus infections and pink eye. Get started by downloading the PMP Anywhere app or by visiting pmpediatricsanywhere.com.

Specialist Available

Did you know you can see a specialist right here at Bassett urinary incontinence, overactive bladder, pelvic organ prolapse and fecal incontinence without a referral from your primary care manager? Call 361-4000, option 4, option 1, option 1 to request an appointment with Dr. Christa Lewis.

Third Party Insurance

Do you have insurance other than TRICARE? Guaranteed no extra cost to the beneficiary, Bassett ACH is required to obtain a copy of private health insurance coverage from all non-active duty beneficiaries. To provide us with this information, beneficiaries will be asked to complete a DD Form 2569 annually.

Clean Out Your Medicine Cabinet

It’s a great time to check your medicine cabinets for expired prescription and over the counter medications. A MedSafe box, located inside the main entrance of Bassett ACH across from the information desk, is in place to securely receive your expired or no longer needed medications.



NASA astronaut U.S. Army Col. Andrew Morgan participates in extravehicular activity #57 with NASA Astronaut Christina Koch, Oct. 11, 2019, to upgrade the International Space Station's solar array batteries. Morgan, with one of the station's four solar arrays in the background, is on the most extreme port side of the ISS during this EVA. Morgan is the commander of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command's Army Astronaut Detachment at Johnson Space Center, Texas. (Photo by NASA Astronaut Christina Koch)

Army astronaut to administer oath of enlistment from space

Amanda Surmeier
USAREC

U.S. Army Recruiting Command is partnering with NASA and Space Center Houston to host the first nationwide oath of enlistment from the International Space Station on Feb. 26, 2020.

Army astronaut Col. Andrew Morgan will administer the oath on a live broadcast to more than 800 Future Soldiers at more than 100 locations across the country and will answer questions from participating schools.

"This is an incredible opportunity for us to partner with Space Center Houston to recognize future Soldiers across the nation with a truly unique experience," said Brig. Gen. Patrick Michaelis, USAREC deputy commanding general, who will facilitate the ceremony and question-and-answer session with Morgan. "This is the first event of its kind and will allow us to show the nation the breadth and depth of opportunities the Army offers today's youth."

Morgan is part of the U.S. Army Astronaut Detachment, which supports NASA with flight crew and provides engineering expertise for human interface with space systems. He is an emergency physician in the U.S. Army with sub-specialty certification in primary care sports medicine and was selected to become an astronaut in 2013.

Morgan is a combat veteran with airborne and ranger tabs and has also served as a combat diver. As an

astronaut, he has completed seven spacewalks and one space flight to the International Space Station. He will share some of his Army story and his experiences in space during the 20-minute live call with Future Soldiers.

The Army and NASA have been working together for more than 60 years. While there are currently only three active-duty astronauts in the U.S. Army, the detachment is only a small fraction of the Army's space assets.

The Army is the largest user of space-enabled systems, often for communications and intelligence. Army operations are critically reliant on space services and capabilities, as Soldiers need satellites in space to help them see, shoot, move and communicate.

"We need qualified and innovative people to help us continuously adapt to the changing world," Michaelis said. "The young men and women who will begin their Army story with the incredible experience with Col. Morgan are part of our future. They will perform the traditional jobs most people associate with the Army, like infantry and armor, but they will also take on roles many people don't realize we do – highly technical and specialized careers in science, technology, engineering and math."

The oath of enlistment ceremony and question-and-answer session with Morgan will stream live on NASA TV, DVIDS, and U.S. Army Facebook and YouTube pages.

ALASKA POST

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The Chaplain’s Corner

Chaplain Paul Fritts
U.S. Army Garrison
Alaska, Fort Greely

I have a guilty pleasure. During these cold winter months I enjoy watching a show called Forensic Files, which airs stories of how forensic science helps capture or exonerate criminal suspects. Season 5, Episode 13, titled “Unholy Vows” tells the story of how forensic science proved Archbishop Valerian Trifa, Diocese of Detroit of the Romanian Orthodox Church, was actually Viorel Trifa, a leader of the Iron Guard, a pro-Nazi fascist group operating in Hungary during World War 2. What really caught my attention was a statement critical of Trifa by historian Dr. Peter Black.

Dr. Black worked for the U.S. Department of Justice as part of a team who tracked and prosecuted suspected war criminals. He later served as the senior historian at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Interviewed as a consultant on the Trifa case for the episode of Forensic Files, Dr. Black provides historical context for Viorel Trifa’s activity with the Iron Guard. On Jan. 20, 1941,

Trifa made an anti-Semitic radio broadcast that incited a pogrom. A pogrom is the “organized killing of a large group of people, especially Jews, because of their religion or race” (Cambridge Online Dictionary). Dr. Black states, “Trifa’s role, as far as the pogrom was concerned, was one of a propagandist, one of an advocate of anti-Semitic hatred, one of an inciter whose writings created an atmosphere in which this kind of violence not only became permissible and acceptable but encouraged.”

Reflecting on Dr. Black’s statement about Trifa’s role in stoking the pogrom nearly 80 years ago in light of the current national discourse on social media platforms and news outlets, it is unsurprising that Jonathan Greenblatt, CEO of the Anti-Defamation League, recently said the following in his opening remarks to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee on the ongoing battle against hate: “A Pew study released last week indicates that Millennials know less about the Holocaust than previous generations. ADL’s Global 100 poll determined

that only an estimated 54 percent of the entire world population has even heard of the Holocaust. And others think that it’s not important anymore...” Ignorance of the Holocaust nurtures silence about it, which encourages hate speech in an endless vicious cycle.

Martin Niemöller, a prominent Lutheran pastor in Germany during WW2, famously condemned the failures of many to speak out against the Holocaust, including his own silence when he said: “First they came for the socialists, and I did not speak out - because I was not a socialist. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out - because I was not a trade unionist. Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out - because I was not a Jew. Then they came for me - and there was no one left to speak for me.” At a time when nearly half of the world’s population has never heard of the Holocaust, we must not forget or remain silent.

Considering the failure to stand against anti-Semitism from a different perspective, the Best Picture Oscar in 1948

went to “Gentleman’s Agreement,” starring Gregory Peck and Dorothy McGuire. Peck portrays a journalist, Phillip, who pretends to be Jewish in order to report through first-hand experience the American, post-war anti-Semitism quietly communicated through “gentlemanly agreements” that excluded Jews from housing and jobs. McGuire’s character, Kathy, who is Phillip’s romantic interest, indirectly experiences the anti-Semitism directed at Phillip. Although she considers herself a liberal bastion against creeping anti-Semitic attitudes, Phillip’s best friend, Dave, a Jewish Army officer played by John Garfield, confronts Kathy’s hypocrisy in a classic scene toward the end of the movie. An anti-Semitic joke was told by a dinner guest at a party hosted by Kathy. Although Kathy and the other guests became uncomfortable, nobody said anything to stop the joke from being told. She looks to Dave to justify her self-identity as a high-minded liberal because she felt guilty about remaining silent instead of confronting the person who told the joke. Instead, Dave points



out that, in spite of her guilty feelings, her silence makes her complicit in perpetuating the anti-Semitic bigotry.

In review, ponder Trifa’s pogrom, the silent complicity of Martin Niemöller, the hypocrisy of polite society in “Gentleman’s Agreement,” and the cautionary statements by Black and Greenblatt. Reflecting on these thoughts from the past week, I’m led to Matthew 25:31-46, where Jesus tells the story of the sheep and the goats. When we ignore the hungry, thirsty, naked, sick, stranger (that is, anyone who is different from us), or the prisoner in our jails, we have ignored Jesus. And when we fail to stand against anti-Se-

mitic hate speech, or any language intended to differentiate the “other” as somehow inferior or less human, we have ignored Jesus. Verbal or physical violence against fellow human beings regardless of how differently they look, think or worship must not become permissible, encouraged or normalized. Let us never forget that Jesus was also a Jew.

For God and Country! The Fort Greely Chapel community is a traditional, protestant Army chapel service meeting on Sundays at 10 a.m. with a weekly Communion observance. Interested? Please call 907-873-4397 or “Like” our chapel Facebook page at www.facebook.com/FGAChapel.

Army working improvements for Exceptional Family Member Program

Joe Lacdan
Army News Service

To improve assignment and case coordination for Families enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program, the Army’s Human Resources Command has been developing a web-based system where support staff and families will be able to access cloud-based forms for faster processing.

Eventually the system will be able to link EFMP information with the Army’s assignments process. It will also provide quicker access to EFMP data for Soldiers and their families.

Col. Steve Lewis, chief of the Army’s Family Program Branch, G-9, calls it "stage 1" into making the system more efficient and accessible to EFMP families and plans to launch the system within the next year.

Lewis testified at a House Armed Services Committee hearing Feb. 5 where EFMP military Families voiced their concerns about difficulties in navigating the system and getting needed healthcare.

Additionally, during town hall meetings with EFMP Families in the past year, Lewis learned that some families have hardships when transferring healthcare and educational services from one installation to another during permanent-change-of-station moves.

"As children move from school district to another school district and across various states, we are finding the



Capt. Myron Mansfield, his 8-month-old daughter Amelia and wife Gabriele make cards for veterans during the Exceptional Family Member Program Holiday Cookie and Recipe Exchange at U.S. Army Garrison Japan Army Community Service at Camp Zama, Japan, Dec. 6, 2019. The Army will adopt a web-based system this year for its EFMP program that utilizes cloud storage for required forms. (Photo by Winifred Brown)

individualized education plans that were established at prior sites aren't always being adopted and acted upon the same way in the new installation," Lewis said.

The Army recently launched initiatives to improve the program, including establishing the Army's Quality of Life Task Force, where Lewis serves as deputy director.

"The individuals and teams established to support the Army's Exceptional Family Member Program share a unified purpose: to ensure a Soldier's assignment is fully capable of meeting the medical and educational

needs of the Soldier's Family member," Lewis said during the Feb. 5 hearing.

Lewis said a key element in improving EFMP service will be communication. On Jan. 30, he attended a senior spouses' panel in Washington where he detailed the Army's long-term plans to improve services as well as listened to spouses' concerns.

"We know we need to improve upon both the local marketing of the EFMP services from the Installation Management Command and connecting with Families and ensuring that they've got a very active web and social media presence," Lewis said.

The Army began its effort to revamp its EFMP process when then-Army Secretary Mark Esper ordered a comprehensive 13-question survey of more than 3,000 EFMP Families last May to identify "gaps and vulnerabilities" in the program.

The survey, developed by the Army Public Health Center at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, queried families on their experiences during PCS moves and hurdles in the process, said Dr. Jill Brown, public health scientist at APHC.

"The survey did allow us an opportunity to recognize that we do have challenges in reaching out

and engaging and communicating with families to ensure that they know what Family support services are available," Lewis said.

The findings revealed that families could find primary care faster than special needs healthcare. The survey also showed Soldiers wanted

greater flexibility in their re-assignments. In response, the Army's Human Resources Command at Fort Knox, Kentucky, has directed career managers to find a minimum of at least two assignment options with services accommodating to

See FAMILY on page 7

Army aggressively moves forward on OMFV, seeks industry input on path forward

U.S. Army Public Affairs

Today the Army issued a market survey for the Optionally Manned Fighting Vehicle (OMFV) program, formally marking the official "restart" to produce a transformational infantry fighting vehicle.

"Industry feedback and partnerships are imperative in moving forward with OMFV, as with all of our modernization efforts," said Dr. Bruce Jette, the Assistant Secretary of the Army

for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology. "This is the first step in that process – seeking industry feedback on our characteristics and understanding how industry can innovatively solve our problem set."

Army leadership from every level is overwhelmingly supportive of significant industry participation in assisting with the revised OMFV approach, and this is the first step in delivering that promise.

"We are not releasing a

prescribed set of requirements – we are describing the problem set and giving industry the freedom to be creative and innovative in their approach," said Gen. John (Mike) Murray, commanding general of Army Futures Command. "We will start by releasing broad vehicle characteristics that will be refined through a series of industry engagements, digital design competitions and Soldier touch points to inform and sharpen OMFV final prototypes for testing."

The prototypes used for testing will ultimately yield requirements for production. This approach will enable the Army to explore the solution space in an environment of rapid and inexpensive learning, leading to verification through physical prototypes, Soldier input and testing.

"These encounters are intended to challenge biases and confirm state-of-the-art technologies available to support the ABCT commander on the modern battlefield,"

said Jette. "Not only will it deliver innovation, it will maximize competition and ultimately produce a vehicle that will dominate in multi-domain operations for generations."

What continues to remain clear is this: OMFV is a critical capability and it is imperative the Army gets it right.

The market survey for OMFV can be found at: <https://beta.sam.gov/opp/37a6d32f8ef34272bd-94c8340f05dd41/view>

Army budget request eyes \$2B boost for modernization

Sean Kimmons
Army News Service

The Army proposes to add over \$2 billion to its modernization efforts next fiscal year that will help continue to develop hypersonic missiles, future aircraft and combat vehicles.

The fiscal year 2021 budget request released Monday asks for \$10.6 billion for the Army's six modernization priorities, a jump from this fiscal year's enacted budget of \$8.5 billion.

Of those priorities, long-range precision fires will receive \$1.7 billion, if the budget is approved as is. Within it, \$800 million would fund a long-range hypersonic missile program that aims to fill a critical capability gap against anti-access/aerial denial capabilities, according to budget documents.

The Army expects to field its first hypersonic unit and fire test shots in fiscal 2022, followed by fielding combat rounds in fiscal 2023.

In the future vertical lift portfolio, the Army requested \$514 million to complete the final design phase of the Future Attack Reconnaissance Air-



A flight test of the Advanced Hypersonic Weapon concept is conducted in November 2011. As part of the fiscal year 2021 budget request, modernization programs are expected to see a boost in funding. One of them is the long-range hypersonic missile program, which is slated to receive \$800 million. (Photo by U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command)

craft, a replacement for the AH-64 Apache and retired OH-58 Kiowa Warrior.

Under the next-generation combat vehicle priority, \$328 million is set aside to fund the Optionally Manned Fighting Vehicle that will replace the Bradley Fighting Vehicle. Last month, the Army canceled its solicitation for a rapid prototype and plans to

solicit it again to gain more interest from industry in order to build a better vehicle.

An additional \$135 million is slated for the Mobile Protected Firepower vehicle that

will fund rapid prototyping efforts ahead of limited-user testing in fiscal 2022.

The air and missile defense priority is also allotted \$376 million for lower tier

air missile defense sensors that provide detection capabilities for the Patriot missile system. Another \$236 million will fund increment 2 of the indirect fire protection

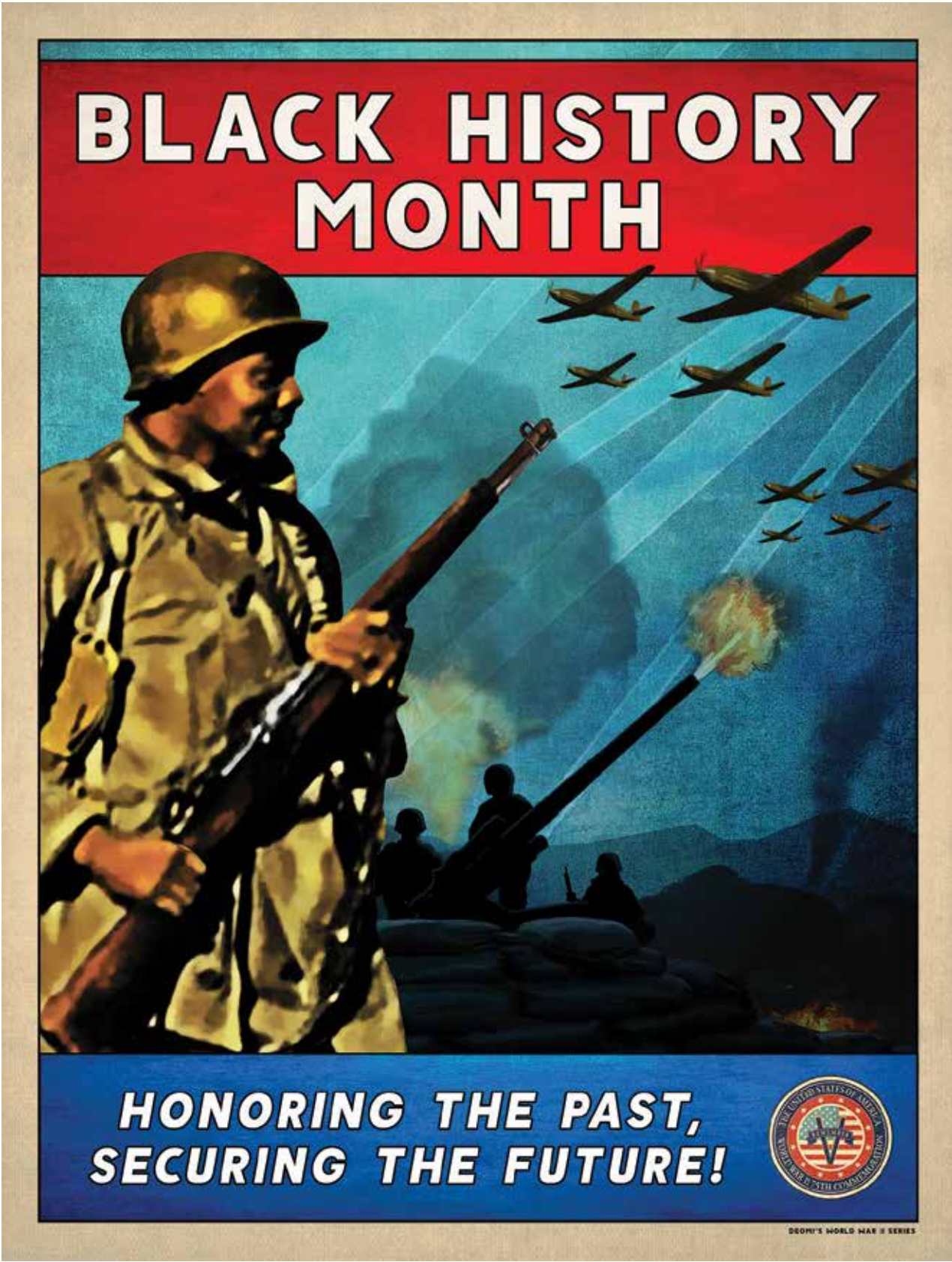
capability, a mobile, ground-based weapon system designed to defeat unmanned aircraft systems, cruise missiles and rockets, artillery and mortars.

To help fund these priorities, the proposed budget realigned \$2.4 billion from lower priority programs. As part of the "night court" process that shifted funds to modernization efforts, the Army eliminated 41 programs and reduced or delayed 39 programs not tied to modernization or the National Defense Strategy across the fiscal 2021-2025 budget plan.

"I believe we have made the most difficult choices that were presented to us at the time to get to the greatest reform number that we could [get]," Maj. Gen. Paul Chamberlain, director of the Army budget, said Tuesday during a budget briefing at the Pentagon.

The total budget

See BUDGET on page 6





Located in America's largest national park, Mount Drum is the westernmost volcano in the Wrangell volcanic field standing 12,011 feet tall in the Wrangell St. Elias National Park. The mountain was named after Brig. Gen. Richard Coulter Drum who entered the Army in 1846. At 13.2 million acres, the park is the same size as Yellowstone National Park, Yosemite National Park and Switzerland combined. (Photo by Daniel Nelson, U.S. Army Garrison Alaska, Fort Wainwright Public Affairs)

Free annual pass for U.S. military

America the Beautiful Passes
The National Parks and Federal
Recreational Lands Pass Series
A pass is your ticket to more
than 2,000 federal recreation sites.
Each pass covers entrance fees

at national parks and national
wildlife refuges as well as standard
amenity fees and day use fees for
a driver and all passengers in a
personal vehicle at per vehicle fee
areas (or up to four adults at sites

that charge per person). Children
age 15 or under are admitted free
at national forests and grass-
lands, and at lands managed by
the Bureau of Land Management,
Bureau of Reclamation and U.S.

Army Corps of Engineers. For more
information on federal recreation
sites and free Annual Passes for
U.S. military, visit https://www.nps.gov/playourvisit/passes.htm#CP_JUMP_5088576.

Army space embraces major changes as new battlefield emerges

Sean Kimmons
Army News Service

After Capt. Robert Franchino attended the basic course for Army space cadre, the military intelligence officer was hooked.

"It lit a fire," he said. "I was interested and engaged the entire time, and I just knew I wanted to be involved in space operations somehow in the military for the rest of my career."

Now a space operations officer through U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense School's Functional Area 40 qualification course, Franchino said he's excited about the work.

He's currently assigned to the 10th Mountain Division with a space badge on his uniform, serving as a planner integrating space capabilities into maneuver units.

Franchino is one of thousands of students across the Army and Defense Department who enrolled in space-related courses last year through the Army Space and Missile Defense Command's schoolhouse. In 2019, instructors taught nearly 16,000 students in Colorado Springs and at home-station training.

Awaiting them is a new battlefield now being contested with near-peer threats.

"We're not going to be the exclusive users of space," Franchino, 34, said of why he chose the career field. "China and Russia are putting up satellites at a competitive rate to us – that means they are leveling the playing field."

"If you want to have far-reaching effects with the work you put in every single day, [this is] the place to go."

Dominating Space

A larger focus on space is underway after the recent re-activation of U.S. Space Command and the establishment of an independent "Space Force" branch of service.

Officials have also discussed creating a 40-series space career field in the Army to bolster its force. Today, SMDC relies on Soldiers transferring from other military occupational specialties – such as those in signal and missile defense – to fill its ranks.

The command currently stands at nearly 3,000 Soldiers and civilians.

A joint space university is also being planned in the next few years, officials said, that would complement efforts of the Army schoolhouse and Air Force's National Security Space Institute at nearby Peterson Air Force Base.



Students conduct training on a satellite dish as part of a Joint Tactical Ground Station course at the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense School in Colorado Springs, Colorado–, Aug. 30, 2019. Last year, the schoolhouse taught nearly 16,000 students in Colorado Springs and at home-station training. (Photo by Sean Kimmons)

"We definitely see growth within the formations," said Daryl Breitbach, the school's director. "The threat continues to grow and the United States, the Department of Defense and specifically, the Army, needs to be able to respond to that increased threat."

Army space could see another boost since SMDC recently took on additional responsibilities supporting both U.S. Strategic Command and U.S. Space Command.

SMDC removed Army Forces Strategic Command from its name in the process to simplify things.

Now with SMDC supporting two four-star combatant commands, the realignment should strengthen the unity of effort and control of Army's space and missile defense missions, said a senior staff officer. It could also lead to new capabilities being developed quicker, especially if they support both commands.

"You're going to be seeing the synergy of two combatant commands that have a lot of influence back to Washington, D.C., and trying to get certain initiatives to move forward," said Col. Christopher Smith, director of strategy, plans and policy for SMDC. "Instead of one trying to carry the water, you'd have two in this case."

While he does not expect any Soldiers to move, or missions to drastically change as a result, he does foresee some adjustments to take place as mission oversight evolves.

"No matter how the changes go in this transition over the coming months and years," he said, "we'll be

ready as the headquarters to address whatever the needs are and provide the trained, ready and equipped forces that U.S. Space Command and USSTRATCOM require."

Warfighting Domain

Since space is still emerging as a warfighting domain, a significant challenge for SMDC is making Soldiers aware of its capabilities.

Many Soldiers, officials said, are unaware they use space-enabled equipment all the time. GPS devices, for instance, enable weapon systems and help Soldiers move around a battlefield. Satellites give units the ability to communicate and to share intelligence.

"They are protecting us, they're enabling us, they're providing an operational advantage to the Army," said Breitbach, who is also an Army Reserve FA-40 officer. "Soldiers use these capabilities on a daily basis."

Cheryl Hughes, an instructor for the school's Army Space Training Division, often travels around the country to enlighten Soldiers on space capabilities that can help them in combat.

"We teach them the basics on space," Hughes said. "We also try to provide enough information so that they're able to recognize if they are ever operating within a contested environment."

Each standard brigade combat team, she noted, already has over 2,500 pieces of space-enabled equipment. She and her team also bring "space kits" and jammers to units and show Soldiers

how their equipment can be affected by enemy interference.

Much of this training occurs well before a unit heads to a combat training center so they can be ready for what may be thrown at them in the box.

"The stronger and more prepared and educated our forces are on the capabilities and also the vulnerabilities of their equipment," she said, "the better they'll be at a fight with peer- and near-peer enemies."

Back at the schoolhouse in Colorado Springs, Pfc. Jalynn Jurich admitted it was a bit nerve-wracking when she discovered how much she had to learn in her course on how to operate a Joint Tactical Ground Station.

After she graduated, Jurich, who joined the Army about a year ago, was assigned to a JTAGS crew in Japan responsible for processing satellite data and disseminating ballistic missile warnings or special event messages to troops.

"You never want to miss a step," she said of the importance of the job. "You have to train yourself to be focused, to trust your training because we do a lot of training on systems."

While it has been difficult to memorize their functions, the 22-year-old said she signed up to be a 14H, or early warning systems operator, because she wanted to be pushed mentally in a job that had a lot on the line.

One day Jurich and her team may need to track a missile launched by an enemy, and it could be solely up to them to warn friendly troops of an impending

attack.

"We are kind of their eyes in the sky. We are the earliest warning," she said. "We want to make sure our troops are safe. If this is coming your way, let's take shelter or evacuate, depending on time."

New Doctrine

On top of training, the schoolhouse is responsible for creating Army space doctrine.

It recently released an update to Field Manual 3-14 for Army space operations and a new Army Techniques Publication 3-27.3 for Army ground-based midcourse defense operations.

Officials also review other warfighting publications across the DOD to ensure Army space assets and issues are addressed, Breitbach said.

At the center of many of these efforts is the Army's new concept of multi-domain operations.

Space assets are now being embraced in the Multi-Domain Task Force, an experimental unit that some senior leaders see as the future of Army formations. Built around a fires brigade, the unit includes an element for I2CEWS: intelligence, information operations, cyber, electronic warfare and space.

The convergence of such assets could help the Army overcome an adversary's anti-access, area-denial capabilities.

"[The adversary wants] to push us out; they want to prevent us from getting into the fight and bringing all of these capabilities together," Breitbach said. "That's our strategy for being able to enter in and establish a foothold in an operation."

The Army expects to roll out a second Multi-Domain Task Force in Europe, officials said, after a pilot in the Pacific region conducted several exercises.

Other innovative ways to compete in the space domain will likely be needed in the near future as technology continues to grow in leaps and bounds, Franchino said.

For the captain and other new members of the space cadre, this could mean a very different battlefield with space assets playing a more significant role.

"It's an important part of how we fight wars and it's also currently held at risk," he said. "It's something we're going to have to continue to exploit in new and creative ways to make sure that we do maintain the strategic advantage over our adversaries."

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Fort Wainwright Family & MWR

Weekly Events

February 22 - 29

24 **Grow & Giggles**
February 24 & 27
9:30 - 11 a.m.

An interactive play group for children 0-5 years old. Assisting parents in learning developmentally appropriate play techniques and helps children improve their social, cognitive, and motor skills. Enjoy structured activities, story time, craft projects and free play time.

Last Frontier Community Activity Center, Bldg 1044
Call 353-7755

25 **Preschool Story Time**
February 25
10 - 11 a.m.

Every Tuesday, the Post Library has story time and activities for FREE! Activities include books, songs, rhymes, and crafts. Join us as we explore new books and themes!

Post Library, Bldg 3700
Call 353-2642

26 **Adult Craft Night**
February 26
5 - 7 p.m.

Enjoy a night out with friends and learn how to create a wooden circle wall hanging! There will be craft beer and wine available for purchase for those who are 21 and older. Artistic experience is not necessary. Cost: \$20 per person.

Last Frontier Community Activity Center, Bldg 1044
Call 353-7755, registration required

27 **Lego Club**
February 27
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Every Thursday from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. you can build a LEGO masterpiece big or small. All ages welcome to this FREE event!

Last Frontier Community Activity Center, Bldg 1044
Call 353-7755

29 **White Mountain Snowmachine Trip**
March 7
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Take a snowmachine trek inside the boundaries of the White Mountains National Recreation Area, north of Fort Wainwright. This is a completely unique way to see Alaska! Cost: \$110. Registration deadline is February 29.

Outdoor Recreation Center, Bldg 4050
Call 361-6349, registration required



COMIC CON AFTER PARTY

FEBRUARY 22 / 6 P.M.
DISCOUNT ON FOOD WHEN IN COSTUME

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AT WARRIOR ZONE

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Nugget Lanes Bowling Center is now open 7 days a week! Join us for a game of bowling or have lunch. Don't forget to use your Blue Star Community Card for discounts on bowling and food. For more information, go to www.wainwright.armymwr.com. @WainwrightMWR #WainwrightMWR

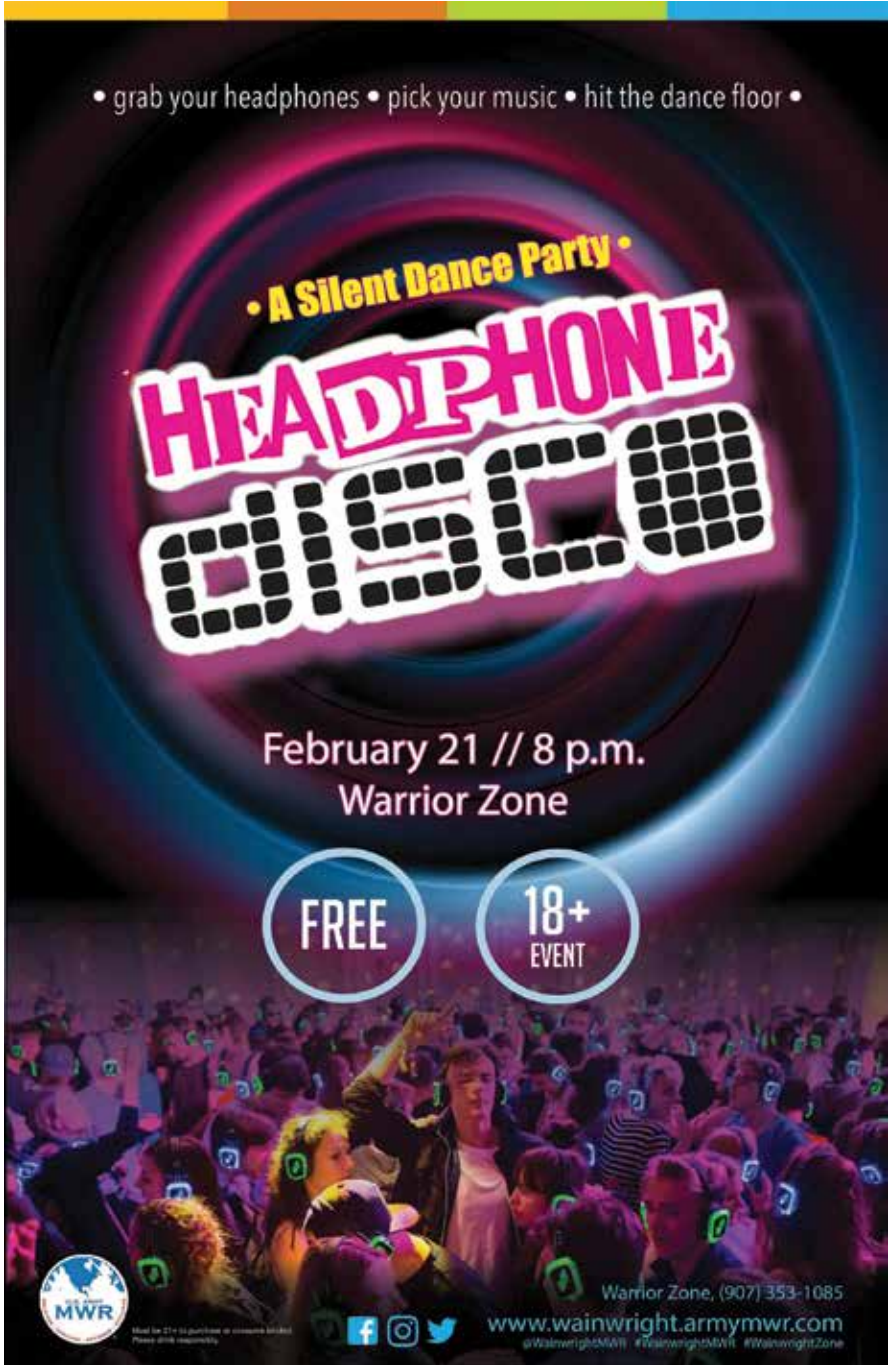
BUDGET: Requests \$2B

Continued from page 4

proposal is \$178 billion, about \$2 billion less than this fiscal year's enacted budget. Within it, the procurement budget request is \$24 billion, about \$1 billion less than this year.

Some of the new equipment to be procured includes \$906 million for over 40,000 Integrated Visual Augmentation Systems, a heads-up display designed to increase situational awareness

in combat and for training. "The 40,000 is part of the roughly 100,000 [for] close combat forces," Chamberlain said. "It begins nearly 40 percent of the fielding toward those forces."



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• A Silent Dance Party •

HEADPHONE DISCO

February 21 // 8 p.m.
Warrior Zone

FREE **18+ EVENT**

Warrior Zone, (907) 353-1085
www.wainwright.armymwr.com
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FLY OVER TO THIS VBS AND VOLUNTEER!

You are needed to help make this year's VBS a success!
(10-14 August 2020, 0900-1200)

To begin the volunteer process, please contact our DRE, Linda Davis, at 907-353-6295 or linda.davis9.civ@mail.mil

FAMILY:
Working
improvements

Continued from page 3

special needs Family members prior to issuing assignment instructions. This allows the families to conduct research on the locations and have a voice in the assignment process.

"For every assignment that Soldiers are considered, you've got a team of professionals within Human Resources Command, a team of professionals within the medical treatment facility," Lewis said. "And they really do (try) based on the medical condition that's described by the physician, to match that condition and the requirements to treat that condition to the availability of services at each MTF."

EFMP is a multi-agency effort that provides a comprehensive, coordinated approach for medical, educational, housing and community support for Families who have members with special needs. The program consists of healthcare providers, coordinators, assignments managers and educators who work with Families to find the educational and healthcare support that best fits their needs.

The Army currently has 119 full-time EFMP staff members to service 54,000 Families, including 55 system navigators that work within the Army Community Services offices. Lewis noted that the Army has an additional 80-90 staff members in the medical treatment facilities that include case coordinators. Within Child and Youth Services, school liaison officers help Families with special needs children address educational concerns.

"We know challenges remain and we have room to improve," Lewis said. "We must get this right."

Lewis said establishing the Quality of Life Task Force and the cloud-based data system will help the service achieve its broader people-based strategy.

"I think the most important measure of success is, 'did we get the assignment right?'" Lewis said. "Are the support capabilities in place to match that Family member?"



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AFTER PARTY**

FEBRUARY 22 / 6 P.M.

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U.S. Army Garrison Alaska
Directorate of Public Works, Environmental Division

Storm Water Opinion Survey

1) View and download the survey from the storm water website – <https://home.army.mil/alaska/index.php/fort-wainwright/storm-water>

2) Complete the fillable PDF, save and email to: ida.r.petersen.civ@mail.mil

3) Your honest answers help the Storm Water Quality Program improve public education and outreach, and ultimately to enhance the Garrison as a place for Arctic Warriors, families, and civilians to live, thrive, serve, and train.



If you would like to enter the drawing to win eco-friendly prizes, make sure to submit by April 7th, 2020

5 to 10 minutes can make a king-sized difference to Sergeant Salmon!